

IN THE ABSTRACT:

Please add an abstract as follows:

Method and device for separating letters by transporting a pile of non-separated and unordered letters by a conveyor band in a continuous flow of essentially non-superposed letters which are largely distributed on said conveyor band. At least one retention plate which is fixed to an axis of rotation in a radial direction with respect thereto rotates around the axis of rotation, which is transversally arranged with respect to the transporting direction of the conveyor band, horizontally and above said conveyor band in such a way that the retention plate arranged under the axis of rotation has a velocity component oriented in the opposite direction to the direction of travel of the conveyor band.